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## FINANCIAL SERVICES REPUBLICAN MORNING CLIPS 12.02.2009

Wall Street Journal: "SEC Steps Up Insider-Trading Probes ... The Securities and Exchange Commission has sent at least three dozen subpoenas to hedge funds and brokerages within the past month in an expanding sweep of potential insider-trading violations, according to people familiar with the matter."

Wall Street Journal: "Fed Debates New Role: Bubble Fighter ... Not so long ago, Federal Reserve officials were confident they knew what to do when they saw bubbles building in prices of stocks, houses or other assets: Nothing."

Wall Street Journal: "FHA Considers Ways to Boost Its Reserves ... The Federal Housing Administration, faced with rising losses on home loans that it insures, is set to announce Wednesday a raft of measures it is considering to protect its dwindling reserves."

Washington Post: "FHA to toughen rules for borrowers ... The Federal Housing Administration is proposing to increase the up-front cash paid by borrowers as part of an effort to shore up the agency's finances, which have been staggered by rising defaults in its flagship mortgage insurance program, according to FHA officials."

Washington Post: "AIG completes deal to reduce debt to Fed by \$25 billion, vows to pay back taxpayers ... American International Group, the insurance giant bailed out by the federal government, announced Tuesday that it has completed a deal to reduce its debt to the Federal Reserve by \$25 billion."

LA Times: "AIG works out deal to cut debt to Fed by \$25 billion ... American International Group Inc., the insurance giant bailed out by the federal government, announced Tuesday that it had completed a deal to reduce its debt to the Federal Reserve by \$25 billion."

USA Today: "Underbanked households, by state ... Nationally, 17.9% of U.S. households have a checking or savings account but use alternative financial services, such as check-cashing outlets or pawnshops."

USA Today: "Treasury auctions off Capital One warrants ... The Treasury Department on Tuesday began auctioning warrants of Capital One Financial, marking the latest government effort to rein in emergency rescue programs set up during the height of the financial crisis last year."

USA Today: "AIG gives government \$25B stakes in life insurers ... American International Group on Tuesday cut the amount of money it owes the government by \$25 billion as it moved two subsidiaries into special holding units ahead of their planned spinoff or sale."

Washington Times: "Banking panel set for final regs vote ... House lawmakers are ready to clear a significant hurdle in their drive to slap new financial restraints on big Wall Street institutions and to demand greater openness from the nation's central bank."

Washington Times: "AIG shaves taxpayer bailout debt ... American International Group Inc. on Tuesday slashed the amount of money it owes the government by \$25 billion, completing a move of two subsidiaries into special holding units ahead of their planned spinoff or sale."

Reuters: "Bernanke to defend his record and the Fed's ... Federal Reserve Chairman Ben Bernanke vowed before taking office to follow in the footsteps of his storied predecessor, Alan Greenspan, but he will likely distance himself from the past as he seeks a second term."

Bloomberg: "Bernanke Has Support of Majority of Senators on Banking Panel ... Ben S. Bernanke has the backing of a majority of U.S. senators on the Banking Committee for a second term as Federal Reserve chairman."

Forbes: "Why We Have An Independent Fed ... A strange coalition of conservatives and liberals has joined forces in attacking the independence of the Federal Reserve System."

Forbes: "Income During Inflation ... Even as the Dow sits above 10,000, the public remains justifiably anxious about the state of the economy."

The Hill: "Small oversight bill could mean influx of big money for data-tracking companies ... A little-noticed bill aiming to boost oversight of the \$700 billion financial bailout could mean big money for the database industry."

Politico: "Hearing on Ben Bernanke brings out Fed critics ... There probably couldn't be a worse time for a Federal Reserve chairman to come up for renomination."

